

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. Application No
PCT/US 99/04494

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A61F9/007

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 A61F A61N A61B A61C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category ^a	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>US 4 156 187 A (BRUMBACH JOSEPH F ET AL) 22 May 1979</p> <p>see column 10, line 40 - line 44; figure 1 see column 14, line 35 - line 37 see column 14, line 58 - line 59</p> <p>---</p>	1-5, 7-12, 14-17, 19-21
Y	<p>WO 92 07622 A (BSD MEDICAL CORP) 14 May 1992</p> <p>see page 31, line 10 - line 25 see page 32, line 33 - line 36; figures 12,13</p> <p>---</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/-</p>	1-5, 7-12, 14-17, 19-21

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

^a Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

31 May 1999

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 693 613 A (KELMAN CHARLES) 26 September 1972 see column 5, line 1 – line 8; figure 4 _____	1,7,14
A	US 5 569 188 A (MACKOOL RICHARD J) 29 October 1996 see column 5, line 6 – line 17; figure 2 _____	6,13,18

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Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 99/04494

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		FR 2383649 A	13-10-1978		
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US 5569188	A 29-10-1996	AU 5540796 A	30-10-1996		
		WO 9632144 A	17-10-1996		